

# Governor's State Workforce Investment Board Career Clusters and Big Sky Pathways

Red Lion Colonial Hotel  
Helena, Montana  
January 22, 2008

## MINUTES

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mike Grove, Chair; Arlene Becker; Connie Eissinger; Brad Eldredge; TJ Eyer (*designee*); Hank Hudson (*designee*); and George Kipp.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Denise Juneau; John Brueggeman; Georgia Gibbs-Atkinson; Maureen Kenneally; Robbe Lindsey; and Anna Whiting-Sorrel.

**STAFF:** Leisa Smith

**GUESTS:** Todd Younkin, Drea Brown, Jasyn Harrington, and Lisa Newman.

### I. Welcome and Introduction

Chairman Mike Grove called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. He welcomed committee members and guests. Opening comments by Chair Grove recapped the strategic planning process that led up to the formation of the new committee structure. Committee members introduced themselves and their backgrounds and interest in the committee subject matter. Lindsey Woolsey, consultant from Corporation for a Skilled Workforce was introduced. Ms. Woolsey is offering guidance to the first meetings of the newly formed SWIB committees.

#### Roll call and Housekeeping

Leisa Smith conducted roll call and addressed house keeping items. Chair Grove explained the committee conducts business under Roberts Rules of Order. He stated he would relax Roberts Rules of Order to encourage active and open discussion. He reminded members of the public to state their name clearly for the accuracy of the minutes.

#### Agenda

Chair Grove reviewed the agenda which was unanimously approved.

### II. Review & Updates

TJ Eyer, Office of Public Instruction and Brad Eldridge, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE) provided a review and updates to Career Clusters/Big Sky Pathways. Key points from Power Point presentation is as follows:

- Montana is developing 16 Career Clusters that best fit Montana occupations and education and training programs.
- Definitions and explanation of Program of Study/Pathways: blends academic and technical skill preparation.

- Explanation of Montana's Six Career Fields Model including Basic Foundation Knowledge and Skills. Used as a tool for curriculum design.
- Discussion of templates to be used for Learners, Parents, Counselors, and Teachers/Faculty.
- Partnership with OCHE, Tech Prep, and Department of Labor & Industry's Research & Analysis (R&A) Bureau and the integration with their Montana Career Resource Network (MCIS.)
- Membership of the Montana State Executive Leadership Team.
- Pathways roll out on Feb. 15, 2008 (web) and use of pilot sites and projects. i.e., total pathway school and or work with an identified pathway a school has already been working on. One pathway is required for all high schools receiving Carl Perkins funding.
- Montana has 81 pathways, the Leadership Team will be monitoring and modifying as needs arise, especially with a changing economy.

Chair Grove opened the discussion seeking input on how the committee and full board could help facilitate and support the project. Mr. Eyer and Mr. Eldredge, Pathway Development Leaders, stated they felt the SWIB could help share information and bring in more local and business input by way of One-Stop's, Job Service Employers Councils (JSEC,) Community Management Teams (CMT,) and facilitating conversations and soliciting input from business and industry. Ms. Woolsey commented on the importance for local input and buy-in.

### **III. Goals, Vision, Impacts, and Timelines**

The committee, along with suggestions from Ms. Woolsey, reviewed the original goals, accomplishments, and made modifications.

Next steps are as follows:

- Collection of Regional Job Growth Data: long and short projections
- Incentivizing Pathway Partnerships and facilitating conversations with business and industry
- Leveraging additional funding streams
- Assistance with implementation: increase awareness especially with special populations, and send support to local level as well as federal level
- Establishment of new timeline allowing for flexibility
- Monitoring progress and assessing delivery system, i.e. meeting needs of business
- Share information with SWIB

### **IV. Other Business**

The next meeting was suggested to occur in March or April. In the interim, SWIB staff will arrange a meeting with OPI, OCHE, and R & A to discuss Regional Job Growth Projections and their application to the committees work.

### **V. Adjourn**

With no further business, Chairman Grove adjourned the meeting at 11:18 a.m.